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THOUGHTS

ON THE

ESTABLISHMENT of NEW MANUFACTURES

IN

IRELAND,

OCCASIONED

By the late FREEDOMS we have OBTAINED.

WITH

An Account of the MANCHESTER MANUFACTURY,

ESTABLISHED BY

MR. BROOKE.

WRITTEN

By a Friend of his in the County of

KILDARE.

DUBLIN:

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MDCCLXXXIII.

DEDICATION.

TO the Man whoſe Charities and Humanity are extended and invigorated with the encreaſe of his Years; who has long lamented the forlorn State of the Poor of *Ireland*, and whoſe Purſe ſo liberally poured forth to their Relief,

the Writer preſumes to dedicate the following Pages. As their Tendency is to promote Induſtry, and as they deſcribe the firſt great Efforts which have been made to realize the Expectations and Wiſhes of thoſe who rejoiced at the Attainment of our commercial Liberties, he is confident the Subject, however indifferently handled, cannot be unpleaſing to old Mr. LATOUCHE.

THOUGHTS,

THOUGHTS, &c.

PERHAPS the firſt riſe of the Emancipation of Ireland was the new and ſpirited idea ſtarted by Mr. BURGH,* in the Houſe of Commons, "That nothing but a Free Trade could "effectually relieve the Kingdom," and this idea has ſince been purſued even to the attainment of our political Liberty.---The firſt grant of a Free Trade created a general ferment in the imagination of all thinking People in the Kingdom; many flattered themſelves that the various Arts

* Now Lord Chief Baron.

Arts and Buſineſſes in which England excels, would be immediately introduced and eſtabliſhed here, and ſome Gentlemen of landed property went ſo far as to invite Weavers, Dyers, and others from Mancheſter, under the notion that providing them with an eligible ſituation was all that was requiſite.---Theſe theoriſts were ſo ignorant of the nature of manufacturing, as to ſuppoſe the buſineſs could be eſtabliſhed by collecting a number of ingenious artiſts together, not adverting that even where the manufacture is conducted diſtinctly in its different departments of ſpinning, weaving, dying, bleaching, printing, &c. &c. the heads of each require a capital. But men poſſeſſed of capitals and in a regular line of buſineſs are never eaſily induced to remove to another country, whatever

whatever advantages are held forth; the idle and drunken workmen who are out of employment, or ambitious of becoming maſters, are fond of emigrating, and Ireland ſpeedily ſwarmed with the ſcum of the Engliſh manufacturing towns.

MANY ſchemers were induced by theſe emigrants to make attempts in different manufactures, which neceſſarily fell to the ground where want of capital was on one ſide, and knavery or drunkenneſs, though united with ſkill, on the other.

THE few men in this kingdom who have acquired a property by trade or buſineſs are cautious, and know well the trouble it coſt them, and are not inclined to riſque it in what bears the appearance of ſcheming;

ſcheming; and again, thoſe to whom a property had fallen by deſcent, were in general too warm in the purſuit of pleaſure, and deſpiſed trade too much, to think of embarking in manufactures.----Beſides, experience had ſhewn the danger of attempting any thing out of the common beaten path, as we have ſcarcely an example of a fortune made in Ireland by any manufacturers except thoſe concerned in the linen buſineſs, wherein an export trade had been encouraged: indeed the narrow limits of home conſumption, and the diſtreſſing conſequences of an over-ſtocked market, rendered it impoſſible for any manufacture to flouriſh in Ireland, whilſt ſimilar fabrics, the redundance perhaps of the Engliſh market, were admitted at a moderate duty, and

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our own redundancies had no foreign vent.

THUS, former attempts in manufactures having proved in a great meaſure abortive whilſt the reſtrictions lay on our trade, and recent attempts having miſcarried from the cauſes already mentioned, the laudable ſpirit of enterprize naturally excited on the attainment of our liberty, might have died away had not ſome notable example been exhibited to prove that a well founded plan, purſued with unremitting attention and ſteady perſeverance, would finally conquer all difficulties.

MR. BROOKE was one of thoſe who on the grant of a free trade looked about for a little time in hopes of encouraging manufacturers to ſettle

on his lands in the County of Kildare, without being himſelf engaged in trade; but he ſoon diſcovered his error, and accident threw in his way a ſet of Mancheſter artiſts who had been juſt diſappointed of employment by ſome gentlemen by whom they were invited hither, and Mr. Brooke, after ſome little converſation, engaged the whole party.

Thus he embarked in a buſineſs of which he was totally ignorant, it was therefore the more neceſſary, as he juſtly obſerved to me, to recur to firſt principles, and lay a ſolid foundation for an undertaking of ſuch magnitude.---The general and leading ideas were, firſt, to eſtabliſh the ſame prices for workmanſhip as in England; the ſecond, to be ſupplied with ſuch machinery as ena-

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bled the Engliſh to work at low prices, and at the ſame time make perfect goods; the third, was to guard againſt the ruinous conſequences of drunkenneſs and combinations; and the fourth, to erect the factories in a plentiful country, not far diſtant from the capital, and where firing was cheap---It was in vain on theſe principles to attempt the eſtabliſhment in Dublin, and to graft the manufacture on a country town would have incurred moſt of the difficulties---He therefore determined to build on his lands in the County of Kildare adjoining the Bog, and convenient to the Grand Canal, and immediately began a Factory for ſpinning and weaving, and a few houſes for weavers: whilſt theſe were in hands he cleared out ſome out offices and put to work a card-

ing machine, a ſpinning jenny, and a loom with the fly ſhuttle, all of which one of the party had brought over, and he diſpatched another of the party to Mancheſter for machinery, and a few hands yet wanting in ſome departments of the buſineſs. The principal he placed in an extenſive concern at Dolphin's-Barn where there was the convenience of water, and here all neceſſary preparations were made for executing the cutting, dying, bleaching, and finiſhing branches.—Thus all commenced with ſpirit, and in a few weeks one piece was produced which from its quality, proved that the ſame hands, with the ſame apparatus, could execute as good work in Ireland as in England, notwithſtanding the common opinion to the contrary.

The public ſoon reaped the advantages of the eſtabliſhment of the dying factory in Dublin, as cotton goods before this period were neither cut, dyed, dreſſed or finiſhed as in England, a number of looms were therefore quickly ſet to work on different cotton fabrics by manufacturers in Dublin, and the corporation of Weavers, ſenſible of theſe advantages, preſented Mr. Brooke with his freedom, expreſſing their thanks in very ſtrong terms---he has alſo been complimented in a ſimilar manner ſince by the Guild of Merchants and the Corporation of the City.---Had Mr. Brooke confined his dying factory to the execution of his own goods it is probable the cotton manufacture would not have extended for ſome years ſo rapidly as it did in a few months.--But indeed,

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from what I can find out he never entertained an idea of monopoly, but rather held it ſubverſive of the public intereſt, and ultimately of private intereſt alſo.

The perſon he had ſent to England for machinery and workmen ſpent his time in his own private affairs, ſquandered the money he was entruſted with, brought over unſkilful hands and a variety of machines, which, after expending four fold their original coſt in putting to work, altering and repairing, were finally broken up as totally uſeleſs, and ſo was twelve months work of a machine-maker this man had brought over at high wages. Theſe miſcarriages with reſpect to machinery incurred various difficulties, the moſt embarraſſing of which

was

was that of being unable to furniſh the weavers with a due ſupply of weft; however early meaſures were taken to obtain good machines, for as ſoon as it was diſcovered that the firſt meſſenger had betrayed his truſt another of the workmen was diſpatched to England, and he executed his commiſſion faithfully. But, Mr. Brooke, at length perceived that a much greater number of machines were requiſite more than he at firſt imagined, and that the delays and expence of procuring them from England was an inſuperable bar to ſpeedy extenſion. He therefore encouraged Mr. Kirchhoffer, a noted Cabinet-maker in Dublin, to undertake machine making, and he afterwards found that this was one of the earlieſt ſteps he ſhould have taken: But notwithſtanding

ſtanding he ſupplied his beſt models, yet it was with infinite labour and expence Mr. Kirchhoffer arrived at perfection, as making any part of theſe machines is a trade in itſelf, and any one part ill-made or imperfect, rendered the whole uſeleſs. At length he collected the different artiſts under his own eye, and the difficulties with reſpect to machinery were ſurmounted, which had impeded Mr. Brooke's progreſs as well as many others in the cotton buſineſs.

DURING this period, a number of houſes were built and filled with weavers, moſt of whom Mr. Brooke was afterwards obliged to diſcharge, being idlers or drunkards; indeed few others would attempt removing to a new eſtabliſhment the ſucceſs

of

of which muſt appear doubtful: ſober and diligent workmen naturally fall into conſtant employment under maſters who know their value, and ſuch workmen, as I before obſerved, are ſeldom willing to change. However, though very great loſſes were incurred in diſcharging from time to time ſuch numbers from the factory, yet as moſt of them were ingenious workmen, the ſober and diligent country weavers who ſtill were taken in to fill the vacancies, acquired in a ſhort time the knowledge of the different works, and ſkill with ſobriety became united in the ſettlement.---This fixed determination ſo frequently exerted, of at once diſcharging any man who appeared a leader of cabals, a drunkard or an idler, without ſhewing any reſpect to his ſuperior ſkill, or any

fear of loſing what had been advanced to him, operated moſt effectually towards the eſtabliſhment of due ſubordination and order.

But it is neceſſary now to mention the reception the goods met with in Dublin market.-- At firſt they found a ready ſale, and ſeveral dealers in Mancheſter goods ſeemed pleaſed at the attempt, and as Mr. Brooke had determined within himſelf to confine his ſales to people in the trade, he withſtood every ſolicitation of the numerous friends to the undertaking to admit the manufactures to be ſold by retail on his account, but referred them to thoſe ſhops who had bought them.

But the goods coming faſt into market and not having a proper place

place or agent for the diſpoſal of them, it was judged adviſable to appoint factors for the ſales, and a very reſpectable houſe in a central ſituation was choſen for this purpoſe.--- But though the ſmall parcels at firſt manufactured found a ready ſale, yet when large quantities were brought to market the jealouſy of the importers became awakened, and whether the Mancheſter merchants apprehended rivalſhip in this kingdom, and entered into a ſubſcription as ſome affirm, or whether it was owing to a decline of trade in conſequence of the war, yet the fact was that numbers of people were conſtantly employed in bringing Mancheſter goods to Dublin, moſt part of which they ſmuggled in the packets from Liverpool, and theſe they ſold at reduced prices, gave greater length of credit

than uſual, and for fifteen months continued with every appearance of determined perſeverance in a plan which it was hard indeed for an infant undertaking to withſtand. But Mr. Beresford and the other commiſſioners with the trueſt patriotiſm took meaſures which tended to ſupport our manufacturers againſt this attack, and but for the illicit imports would have had a perfect operation: They ordered the full duties to be levied on the entry of ſuch goods as paſſed through the Cuſtom-houſe, which full duties had been hitherto evaded by entering them under falſe denominations, and here it ſhould be mentioned that the manufacturers of Ireland are peculiarly indebted to Mr. North, one of the land waiters, for his having executed the orders of the board with uncom-

uncommon zeal.---A zeal of ſuch a nature is ſeldom liberally rewarded. ---But why are fees admitted in theſe departments at the Cuſtom-houſe? Why are not the ſalaries adequate to the employment and truſt?---Is not human nature already too prone to deviate from duty and rectitude without being needleſsly expoſed to temptation.

To return---the ſtock of goods in ſome time began to accumulate as the market became glutted with Engliſh fabrics, and application was repeatedly made by Mr. Brooke's factors to the ware-houſes and to the retailing ſhops. Theſe frequent ſolicitations, as the factors informed me, induced in eight or ten months rather more than half a dozen of the numerous retailers in Dublin, and three

three or four of the wholeſale dealers to come and look at the goods: Their patronage thus decreaſing in proportion as the manufacture extended, and the ſtock having accumulated to the amount of many thouſand pounds, and ſome low artifices having been practiſed to injure the character of the goods, Mr. Brooke was at length compelled in his own defence to have recourſe to a temporary expedient, and permitted his factors to ſell by retail: The effect of this meaſure ſoon convinced him that the public tide was in his favour, and inclined him to believe that the Dublin ſhop-keepers had not ſeen clearly their own intereſt by compelling him to a meaſure inconſiſtent with the eſtabliſhed rules of trade, but this perhaps may be of but ſhort continuance, and in-

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deed 'tis matter of ſurprize that the Dublin retailers do not endeavour to come upon ſome footing with Mr. Brooke, as I cannot ſee, provided they had due profit on Iriſh goods, that it could do them any ſervice to prefer the ſale of Engliſh.

It is abſurd to ſuppoſe that the importing merchants, as long as they continue to conſider an import trade as the only mode of employing their capital, ſhould wiſh to promote what might render importation unneceſſary, and of courſe turn the trade from them into other channels. Yet into other channels it will ſurely fall, therefore theſe gentlemen ſhould arrange their ſyſtem in conformity to the recent revolution in our trade, and drop in with the general current inſtead of attempting to ſtem it.---

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Without entering into refined diſquiſitions on the nature of trade which frequently betray one into falacious theories, I ſhould conceive we ſhould ſtudy and purſue the methods practiſed in England, and which experience has proved to be ſucceſsful, the ſimilarity of our conſtitution will now admit of our following her example, which we could not do heretofore ---There, the intereſts of the merchant of London are one with the intereſts of the manufacturers in the country; the induſtry and ingenuity of the one become a ſource af wealth to the other, the merchant ſupports by his credit and capital the exertions of the manufacturer, and enables him to extend with ſpirit.--- The capitals of each are thus doubled, and trade flouriſhes in proportion.

DURING the long period wherein Mr. Brooke wanted ſale for his goods, it was a fortunate circumſtance that he ſteadily perſevered in making ſuch articles as might be deemed ſtaple, and not liable to remain on hands by any variation of faſhion.---The happy conſequences of this were immediately experienced on the peace, as ſeveral merchants and gentlemen, ſanguine friends of the manufacture, ſubſcribed and purchaſed goods to a conſiderable amount, which were ſhipped for America. On this occaſion Meſſrs. Cope and Binns were particularly active, and Sir William Gleadowe Newcomen, Bart. and Co. ſhewed their zeal to forward the manufactures of Ireland. From this period the buſineſs took a favourable turn, private merchants made conſider-

able purchaſes for the American market, a moſt promiſing trade was opened with the Portugueze, and a flattering proſpect at Oſtend---It is here but juſtice to mention what I have frequently heard Mr. Brooke declare, that were it not for that ſteady ſupport he experienced from Meſſrs. Latouche in diſcounting bills at long dates, particularly at times when the mercantile world were moſt diſtreſſed, it would have been impoſſible for him to have extended himſelf, or brought the buſineſs to its preſent ſtate. I have heard him alſo expreſs in warm terms the ſenſe he entertained of the frequent civilities ſhewed him by Meſſrs. Finlay and Co. but he was happy in having had the general good wiſhes of the public, and ſuch a property as obtained him confidence.

It is rather ſingular that an export trade ſhould be opened of a manufacture introduced only about three years ſince, but ſuch is the effect of a ſpirited purſuance of the ſame means, and introduction of the ſame machinery by which the manufacture flouriſhes in England, and happy were it for the kingdom if other manufactures, particularly the woollen, would adopt this mode; we ſhould not then remain much longer an object of ridicule in the eyes of Europe for having neglected to avail ourſelves of that freedom for which we ſo glorioufly ſtruggled.*

* *Extracts of Letters from Meſſrs.* ENDYS, SYKES, and Co. *dated New-York, 8th and 24th May, to Meſſrs.* COPE and BINNS, *of Dublin.*

" By the Darragh we are favoured with your eſteemed, 9th March, incloſing invoice ſundry cot-

" tons.

—It is yet more ſingular, that whilſt we are able to meet our neighbours on equal ground at a foreign market, that we ſhould maintain an import trade, for home conſumption, of the ſame commodities loaded with a duty of 10l. per Cent. beſides other charges.—I ſhould conceive this to be owing to ſome uncommon peculiarity in the diſpoſition of my countrymen.

MR. BROOKE's undertaking attracted in its early infancy the kind notice of the Duke of Leinſter and many

" tons. The Corduroys are better and cheaper than " we expected, and we have the pleaſure of in- " forming you that they are approved of equal to " Mancheſter manufactory. The colours of your " Corduroys are good, being the proper Olive.

" We ſold a number of pieces of Corduroys at " Auction, which will leave a good profit."

many of the neighbouring gentlemen, who have ſince ſteadily continued their patronage and granted roads to the ſettlement, which prove of the utmoſt utility.---The Grand Jury of the county paid Mr. Brooke the flattering compliment of viſiting the factory, and mentioning it in their addreſs to the Earl of Temple.*---The Lord Primate granted money for a church.---The Dublin Society with their uſual zeal to aſſiſt infant under-

* Report of the COMMITTEE appointed by the GRAND JURY of the County of Kildare to inquire into the ſtate of the Buildings and Manufactures at the Town of Proſperous.

1ſt. That the ſituation of the town is particularly eligible, as well in reſpect of fuel as water, cloſe to the bog and near the Grand Canal.

2d. That the buildings are in general of brick and ſlated, ſafe, comfortable and convenient.

3d. That there are factories of very great extent, fully occupied by carding, ſpinning, and various other

undertakings, lent their aid by forming premiums calculated to aſſiſt the cotton

other machines, and conſiderable additional buildings, almoſt compleated to contain greater works, and a bleach-green covered with cotton goods.

4th. We perceived with real pleaſure, an appearance of order and regularity in the conduct of every department, uncommon cleanlineſs throughout the town, and the inhabitants in general comfortably clad; all of which happy circumſtances we muſt chiefly attribute to the ſpirit of induſtry and ſobriety, which the eſtabliſhment of this manufacture has ſo ſuddenly introduced.

5th. We are further pleaſed with ſeeing about ſeventy-five boys and girls, who are apprentices, cloathed in a regular uniform, and daily learning arts hitherto almoſt unknown in this kingdom.

6th. Our curioſity was highly gratified by tracing the progreſs of the cotton through the various operations, and the number of ingenious machines thro' which it paſſes, in the proceſſes of carding, ſpinning, weaving, bleaching, and printing; the apparatus for theſe laſt mentioned ſtages of the buſineſs, is but recently eſtabliſhed here, but appears to us in reſpect to the machinery uſed, the convenience of the buildings, and the management of the water, to be

admirably

cotton works. But Mr. Brooke's great inducement to perſevere was the

admirably calculated for the moſt enlarged and perfect buſineſs.

7th. In addition to the great range of buildings in which the printing and bleaching works are carried on, there are a number of dye and work-houſes almoſt compleated for the finiſhing branches of this comprehenſive undertaking, and theſe we underſtand, are all that remain undone to concentre the whole of the buſineſs at this ſpot, where three years ſince, there was not even a houſe to be ſeen.

8th. We received ſingular pleaſure from the appearance of univerſal induſtry which pervades this ſettlement, the ſound of the loom, and the noiſe of machinery, were heard throughout, and the healthful and happy countenances of the inhabitants, afford a ſtriking proof, that it is the eſtabliſhment of a proper ſyſtem, and ſupplying the means of induſtry, which alone are wanting to render the lower order of people in this kingdom happy, and we muſt neceſſarily conclude, that eſtabliſhments like this would be the only certain means to prevent emigrations, by affording employment to every age and deſcription.

9th. We perceive that a manufactory of ſuch magnitude and extent as Mr. Brooke's, would neceſſarily furniſh

the favourable manner in which his petition to parliament was received through

furniſh bread to an infinite number of people, more than the actual artiſts employed in it, and we therefore lament that the appearance of this town as yet reſembles, too much that of a body without proportionable members, and for want of a ſufficient extenſion of buildings, that hundreds are thus deprived of enjoying that bread which might be afforded here to the lower, and more common kinds of induſtry. And we preſume that were theſe circumſtances univerſally known, private perſons who now look forward from their native country to a ſettlement in the Weſtern world would prefer employing the capital required to tranſport them thither in ſettling in a ſituation where every ſpecies of induſtry muſt neceſſarily thrive under the regulations which are here maintained for the preſervation of good order and ſobriety.

10th. At the ſame time that we muſt expreſs our admiration at the exertions and ſpirit of an individual, in perſevering and bringing to ſuch a ſtate of maturity, an undertaking to which the united efforts of a company ſhould ſeem neceſſary; we muſt expreſs our earneſt wiſhes, that it may proceed to ſuch a degree of extenſion as to give ſupply to all foreign markets, as well as home conſumption, there being now demand

through the now Lord Chief Baron's repreſentation;---this opened a proſ-

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mand infinitely beyond what could be executed in the number of buildings hitherto erected.

Reſolved unanimouſly, That the enterprizing yet well regulated exertions of Capt. Brooke, merit our higheſt approbation, and that we deem it incumbent in us thus publicly to teſtify our ſentiments of his ſpirited undertaking.

Signed,

MAT. AYLMER, Sheriff.

ROB. POWER, Foreman.

ADDRESS of the COUNTY of KILDARE to the LORD LIEUTENANT,

May it pleaſe your Excellency,

WE the High Sheriff and Grand Jury of the County of Kildare beg leave to aſſure your Excellency that we feel the higheſt ſatisfaction in the approbation that your Excellency's conduct as Chief Governor, has ſo univerſally met with.

We heartily concur in applauding your Excellency's exertions for this country's proſperity, of which we have a ſtrong inſtance in our county, by your kind and well judged aſſiſtance to the manufactory eſtabliſhed by Capt. Brooke.

pect of public ſupport, ſuited to the extent of the plan; the buildings were therefore (on the parliamentary grant) proſecuted with new vigour, the place ſoon became more populous, a weekly market was naturally formed,

It is with ſincere concern that we perceive great reaſon to believe, that a Viceroy ſo capable and ſo willing to aſſiſt our welfare and eſtabliſh our conſtitution, is ſhortly to reſign the government of this kingdom.

MICH. AYLMER, Sheriff.
ROB. POWER, Foreman.

His EXCELLENCY's Anſwer.

I return you my beſt thanks for the ſatisfaction which you expreſs of my conduct in this Government, which from unavoidable circumſtances I am obliged to quit, and for your aſſurances of regard and of eſteem.

I felt a real pleaſure, upon principles of public duty, in giving every encouragement to the manufacture eſtabliſhed by Capt. Brooke, to whoſe merit I am happy to bear this teſtimony in words very inadequate to the ſenſe I entertain of the obligations which this kingdom owes to his activity, zeal, and public ſpirit.

ed, public houſes were permitted for the ſale of malt liquors, but the proprietors prohibited, on pain of inſtant diſmiſſion, to vend ſpirits of any denomination, and I will venture to affirm that this regulation, which has been religiouſly maintained, has contributed eſſentially to the rapid ſucceſs of the eſtabliſhment, and that Ireland will never arrive at a ſtate of reſpectability till malt liquors become the beverage of the poor, and ſpirits for home conſumption ſo taxed as to give malt liquors a decided preference ----Gardens were formed behind each of the houſes, which tend to keep the weavers healthful, and ſupply them with potatoes and other vegetables. Every family that had been induſtrious was provided with a milch cow, the rents were regulated in weekly ſtoppages, numbers of ap-

prentices were taken in by the weavers and ſpinners-----But here I muſt obſerve a very unexpected, and almoſt unaccountable circumſtance, viz. that it was with the utmoſt difficulty, and after the factory was nearly two years eſtabliſhed, before any of the children of Mr. Brooke's former tenants or labourers could, as he informed me, be prevailed upon to learn any branch of the buſineſs, yet now 'tis quite the reverſe.

In 1782, there was an unfortunate riſe in the of price of cotton to nearly treble its uſual price, and its long continuance at this exorbitant rate bore very hard on the young ſettlement, and had nearly put a ſtop to moſt of the manufacturers in this line,---here perſeverence was indeed neceſſary, and the temptation

tation to draw back very powerful, where a number of people were kept conſtantly employed at a certain loſs. But about this period, Mr. Foſter, by whom the intereſts of this kingdom are perhaps beſt underſtood and moſt wiſely promoted, * was inſtrumental

* " What we have hitherto ſaid of the means " by which a nation may acquire a ſuperiority over " another in point of perfection in workmanſhip, " proves that manufactures cannot ſupport themſelves in a flouriſhing ſtate without ſome aſſiſtance. " They are indebted for that ſtate, partly to the " concourſe of ſeveral various cauſes, always collected in one point of view by the legiſlature, " whoſe wiſdom and vigilance direct them equally " towards the ſame end.

" Whatever care the preſervation of ſo rich a " mine requires, the greateſt difficulty of all lies in " the firſt finding out and opening of it: the ſtrongeſt efforts are never too great then. Rude and " ignorant men are to be inſtructed, and their hands " taught to have more intelligence than their heads " are ſuſceptible of; and thoſe novices are to be " made

mental with ſeveral other members of the linen board in obtaining the patronage

" made not only to equal foreign rivals conſummate " in their art, but even to influence and ſeduce " thoſe who are to judge between them.

" The means generally made uſe of in France to " encourage the eſtabliſhment of manufactories, are " to purchaſe at the public expence, the particular " ſecrets, either for preparing or dying materials, " or the engines, whether new, or not known there " before; and to grant rewards proportioned to " the importance of ſuch new undertakings. Thoſe " rewards, always judged neceſſary, are perſonal " diſtinctions and prerogatives granted to the direc- " tors of the undertaking; funds advanced; proper " places allotted to ſave expence at firſt, till the " profits became certain; the purchaſing of what is " manufactured, or wrought, at a fixed price during " a certain time; a thing by no means to be ſlighted, " and of which great advantage has been and may be " made; or laſtly, a bounty on the exportation of " thoſe productions, until they are able to compete " with foreign productions of the ſame kind at their " proper market.

" No part of the ſtate, but the ſtockholders, can " find fault with thoſe expences; becauſe they are

" the

patronage of that body to the mixed linen and cotton manufacture, a patronage

" the only men, who would not be repaid their diſ-
" burſements with uſurious intereſt. That remark
" alone ſufficiently ſhews that ſtates have not any
" more certain way to increaſe their riches.

" A laſt way to encourage manufactories, is to
" annex an idea of merit and diſtinction to the pro-
" feſſion of manufacturers, or of thoſe who by their
" extenſive correſpondences procure a vent for their
" productions abroad. That is but juſt; ſince thoſe
" men, the merchants, are the diſpenſers of employ-
" ment and food to the induſtrious workman, and of
" the cultivator's reward. The ſtate is in a manner
" partner in the merchant's profits, without ſharing
" the hazard he runs, or the fatigues he undergoes;
" and, therefore, ought never to ſlight him, but
" cheriſh, careſs, and honour him. The produc-
" tions of labour and ingenuity may, in general, be
" compared to a piece of clock-work; the ſprings
" of which relax and ſpoil, when not taken care of,
" and which at length ſtop if not wound up in time.
" The men who keep thoſe ſprings in order, who
" compoſe, connect, and put them in motion, ought
" to be diſtinguiſhed by their country and by every
" citizen who is a friend to it."——See POSTLE-
THWAYT's Commercial Intereſt explained.

tronage of ſuch importance again determined Mr. Brooke to perſevere. ---It may not be improper here to obſerve the intimate connexion ſubſiſting between the linen and cotton manufactures, and the ſuperior advantages this kingdom muſt have in foreign markets over others in all fabrics wherein linen yarn is uſed in warp, for as we may be ſuppoſed to ſtand now on nearly equal ground with reſpect to the raw cotton, machinery and the prices of workmanſhip, the chief hope of meeting our neighbours at an advantage abroad and where they have eſtabliſhed connexions is by bending our attention to thoſe goods which are of mixed linen and cotton, as our having the linen yarn on better terms, turns the ſcale in our favour, and a very ſmall matter in point of price

price opens a door for their reception. During the period in which cotton bore ſuch a high price, Mr. Brooke finding there was little employment at his dying factory in Dublin but for his own goods, judged it eligible for this reaſon and others which are unneceſſary to mention, to concentre the whole of the buſineſs in the country, and accordingly began to build houſes for the different workmen who were to be removed; but juſt as a competent number had been finiſhed, the Earl of Temple ſent for Mr. Brooke and informed him that a party of ſkilful hands from Manchester had come hither in their way to America, and that it was wiſhed their emigration ſhould be prevented by their being taken into employment here, and pointed out to Mr. Brooke that his endeavours to en-

gage them would be agreeable, which he did immediately, and brought ſeveral of their families from one of the moſt diſtant parts in the kingdom; but Mr. Brooke's trouble and expence was amply repaid on this occaſion by the kind attention of his Excellency, whoſe repreſentation of the matter to Government in England obtained his Majeſty's letter, which was couched in terms highly flattering.

But now freſh buildings became neceſſary, as thoſe prepared for the dyers and other workmen belonging to that department were occupied by theſe emigrants, and Mr. Brooke commenced again vigoruſly and acquired new ſpirits to proceed by a handſome grant made him for machinery, &c. by the linen board, who had

had previouſly ſent Mr. Arbuthnot, their Inſpector General, to view and report on the ſtate of the works.

Mr. Brooke has now very nearly compleated and united the whole of his undertaking at his new town. An adequate idea of the manner in which the buſineſs is there conducted, and of its nature and extent is only to be formed by viewing it,--a gratification from which no one is prohibited. Indeed it muſt be delightful to ſee a little Mancheſter which has ſprung up in three years ſpace, to ſee the various improvements concentred at one ſpot which have wrecked the invention of thouſands of the moſt ingenious mechanics to diſcover, to ſee one of thoſe great manufactures, the pride, the boaſt, and endleſs ſource of riches

to England, at once eſtabliſhed and firmly rooted amongſt us ----Extenſion now is alone required---the demand for goods is without limit---the unemployed of Ireland numberleſs---But how can a ſingle capital ſupply houſes and employment to every one?

To conclude, thoſe gentlemen who are acquainted with the general ſtate of the lower orders of people in this kingdom know well that nearly two thirds of the peaſantry are in a moſt wretched ſtate. Without adverting to the cauſe they are called idle and ſlothful ---I acknowledge they are ſo, and the meaner vices, lying, flattery and theft are naturally predominant amongſt ſlaves; in vain then do we look for the virtues of a free people amongſt our peaſantry.---But ſupply

the

the means of induſtry before we condemn our poor as unconquerably idle, and when they become independent by their labour the virtues of a free people will gradually extirpate the vices attendant on ſlavery, and the penal laws may then be enforced, when circumſtances ſo alter as to render the plea of neceſſity, not as at preſent, too often well grounded and unanſwerable.

O! thou once oppreſſed and enſlaved nation, little did the moſt ſanguine hopes of thy warmeſt friends expect the day of thy preſent emancipation !-----Thou art free, but it is time, patience and labour that muſt precede the enjoyment of the fruits of thy liberty. When ſhall that induſtry thy poor may now freely exert, become univerſally diffuſed, that

thy

thy children may remain no longer naked, thy dwellings no longer ſhock the eye of humanity, and thy only portion in the cattle around thee be the toil of tending, or driving them to market. We ſhall indeed have reaſon to boaſt the liberty we have ſo happily acquired, when the major part of the natives of this kingdom are cloathed, fed and houſed, as the peaſantry in our ſiſter kingdom.---- How pleaſing then muſt it be to every true friend of Ireland, to ſee the ſtrides Mr. Brooke has made at his new town towards this deſirable object, to ſee cleanlineſs inſtead of filth, order inſtead of confuſion, diligence and ſobriety inſtead of ſloth and intoxication, comfortable dwellings inſtead of wretched hovels; to ſee plenty and health inſtead of want and rags, to ſee a place where the num-

ber of a man's children conſtitutes his riches, inſtead of dividing the ſcanty meal into yet ſmaller portions, and from feeble age to childhood there are ſuitable employments: Finally, where an idler cannot exiſt, and where the induſtrious cannot want---A place, which to the neighbouring country is like the heart to the human body, extending a ſecret but warm principle of life, which may yet ſerve to animate the remoteſt parts of the kingdom.

FINIS.

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